

St Barnabas Playgroup

St. Barnabas Millennium Hall, Pitshanger Lane, Ealing, London, W5 1QG



Inspection date

25 September 2015

Previous inspection date

27 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers have a well-developed knowledge of how to keep children safe and protect them from harm. They have comprehensive policies and procedures for safeguarding children which are applied consistently by staff and are shared with parents.
- Managers review their practice regularly to identify key areas for development. Parents and staff contribute to this process and have a shared sense of the future direction of the provision and how it can benefit children.
- Staff have high expectations for all children and take time to get to know their individual interests and needs when children join. They use this information as a basis for ongoing assessments to track children's progress over time.
- The quality of teaching is consistently strong and all staff have an in-depth knowledge of how to help young children learn. Children are working comfortably within the typical range of development for their age.
- A sensitive key-person system that matches children well to staff ensures that children settle quickly and form secure relationships with staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff hurry children unnecessarily to finish their chosen activity, rather than allowing them time to finish it to their own satisfaction.
- Children are not supported as effectively as possible in growing their understanding of how to keep themselves healthy.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- provide more opportunities for children to have time and space to finish activities to their own satisfaction
- support children's growing understanding of how to keep themselves healthy more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching inside and out.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with senior managers and looked at relevant documentation, including policies and procedures, and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Bassani

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers ensure that staff are knowledgeable about how to manage and minimise any risks to children without encroaching on their opportunities to explore freely. Effective systems for monitoring staff performance help managers to identify any weak areas of practice. Less experienced members of staff are supported in developing their practice by more experienced staff. Staff have opportunities to attend training to develop their knowledge and understanding of how children learn. This results in a well-qualified staff team that provides children with a high-quality experience.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide stimulating and engaging opportunities for children on which they build the foundations for future learning. Children's communication and language skills are well supported through, for example, imaginative 'shop' play experiences where they pretend to buy food items. They develop their basic skills in mathematics as they count out paper money, and learn about technology as they press buttons on cash registers. Staff ask questions to help children develop their thinking skills, such as what they buy when out shopping with their parents or how much they think a loaf of bread will cost. Children develop their fine muscle control as they make potato shape prints. They learn the names of simple shapes as part of their mathematical development. Staff monitor children's progress through regular observations. They use this information to plan more challenging activities for them when they are ready and which take account of their individual learning needs. Parents are involved in this process and are asked to share key moments from their child's learning at home to share with their friends at playgroup. This promotes children's self-confidence and self-esteem.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good and staff speak sensitively to children to help them learn the difference between right and wrong. For example, children are encouraged to share toys with others and to help at tidy up time. Staff encourage children to discuss their feelings to help them learn about how their actions affect others and how to be kind and nice towards each other. For example, children use finger puppets to help them express their emotions. Staff act as good role models for children and promote their understanding of diversity through the resources and experiences that they provide. These practices, among others, help children develop respect for each other.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn important skills which help them prepare for their next stage in learning. They are confident and happy to learn and make good progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	118172
Local authority	Ealing
Inspection number	846137
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	St Barnabas Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	27 September 2011
Telephone number	020 3384 0702

St Barnabas Playgroup registered in 1992. It is managed by a voluntary management committee made up of parents of children who attend the playgroup. It is situated in the London Borough of Ealing. The playgroup is open each weekday from 9.30am to 12.15pm, term time only. The manager has a childcare qualification at level 3 and at least half of all other staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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